

Graduate Helps to Relocate Entire Hospital During Small Town Disaster

Sometime during the hour of 9:00 pm on March 1, 2007, the small town of Americus, Georgia held on tight as a F3 tornado raced through the night. In its wake, was a town in crisis and without a hospital.

The tornado broke most of the windows at Sumter Regional Hospital, and blew off part of the roof. The hospital lost all power, including emergency power, all telephone communication, and all cell phone communication. Water flooded the ground floor from broken water pipes. Approximately 100 patients were in the hospital. They were located on three floors, and the elevators were not working.

There was one physician in the hospital at the time of the tornado. Saied Khosrowpour, M.D. was the Emergency Room physician that night. Dr. Khosrowpour is a 2006 graduate of the South Carolina AHEC Family Medicine Residency Training Program in Greenville. With only flashlights for light, he organized the staff to evacuate the patients. Ambulances from surrounding communities were called in by ambulance-frequency radios. Eventually all of the patients were successfully evacuated and all survived the ordeal.

After all of the patients were evacuated, Dr. Khosrowpour and the staff gathered what



Photo Courtesy of Sumter Regional Hospital

undamaged supplies they could find, and set up a makeshift triage center in a local church.

When Dr. Khosrowpour was asked what prepared him to handle such a disaster, he replied, "My training in the Emergency Room at Greenville Memorial."

The entire South Carolina AHEC system is proud of Dr. Khosrowpour. He is an excellent example of how training in Family Medicine prepares physicians to handle whatever comes at them.

For information about South Carolina AHEC Residency Training Programs, visit: www.scahec.net. Sumter Regional Hospital is still rebuilding from the tornado. Additional information and donations can be made at www.sumterregional.org (you will be redirected to their emergency backup site).

New Day in Medical Education Dawns in South Carolina

Jerry Reves, MD and Jerry Youkey, MD

We are all familiar with the saying, "To err is human," but starting the second week in March, partners in Health Sciences South Carolina (HSSC), MUSC among them, took a giant leap forward in reducing medical errors in our state with the opening of the Greenville Healthcare Simulation Center.

Equipped with a half million dollars in sophisticated patient simulator technology, the Greenville Healthcare Simulation Center is the first in a planned statewide network of centers that will be used to revolutionize how our state's universities and technical colleges educate future healthcare providers, and ultimately, improve the

Continued on Page Two...

Continued from Page One... quality of care and patient safety.

It's a novel concept, the creation of John J. Schaefer, M.D., a world expert in simulator research and education who was recruited to our state by HSSC last year to hold an Endowed Chair in Patient Simulation Education and Research. Using training modules designed by Dr. Schaefer and his team, medical students and residents, nursing and allied health students will learn how to do everything from simple procedures like inserting intravenous lines and breathing tubes, to the complex such as laparoscopic surgery, delivering babies, and trauma care using lifelike mannequins rather than live patients.

In many ways learning on "dummies" and in simulated clinical settings is better than traditional teaching methods that rely on real patients in hospitals. Students can practice a procedure 10, 20, even 100 times, and in the process become highly competent before ever laying a hand on a live patient. If mistakes are to be made as one learns and perfects knowledge and skills, it is better to do so in a harmless environment.

Students will have more opportunities to practice emergency situations and unusual medical procedures, gaining valuable experience with situations that occur infrequently in real life. They also can practice as a team, each person learning his or her role along with the overall synergy required in an operating suite, emergency room or birthing suite. All of this results in a higher level of skill and confidence among providers, a higher quality of care in our hospitals, and improved patient safety.

Although the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) has been using simulation training to prepare pilots for years, the approach is new to healthcare. With the direction of Dr. Schaefer, HSSC will become the national leader in this emerging field.

To this end, Dr. Schaefer is working with the six HSSC partners - MUSC, Clemson University, Greenville Hospital System, Palmetto Health, Spartanburg Regional Healthcare System and the University of South Carolina (USC) - to establish seven integrated simulation centers. By the end of this year, simulation centers will be open at MUSC, Palmetto Health and the USC School of Medicine. By the end of 2008, Clemson, Spartanburg and USC-Beaufort also will have simulation centers.

As each facility is created, it will be linked to the others in the statewide network to both facilitate shared course development and validate through research the educational and patient safety value.

It is worth noting that in addition to providing clinical education to students, the simulation centers also will provide continuing education to practicing physicians and nurses so they can maintain their skill sets on new technologies and procedures.

HSSC and Dr. Schaefer have accomplished much in an incredibly short time. While we would like to take credit, this "new day" in medical education would not have been possible were it not for the South Carolina General Assembly.

It was their visionary legislation, the Research Centers of Economic Excellence Act, that gave rise to HSSC. It was their investment of \$5 million that allowed HSSC to establish a Research Center of Economic Excellence in Clinical Effectiveness and Patient Safety. And it's the General Assembly's ongoing commitment to transforming our state's economy through research that continues to inspire South Carolina's research universities to greater things.

We also would like to cite another source of inspiration, Helen Haskell, whose son, Lewis Blackman, died at MUSC. Ms. Haskell's tireless work has led to a statewide recognition of the importance of patient safety. MUSC is proud to announce that Dr. Schaefer's endowed chair is now the Lewis Blackman Chair for Patient Safety. A plaque memorializing Lewis will be displayed in each of the HSSC Simulation Centers as a reminder that our primary mission is the health and safety of our patients.

Jerry Reves, MD, is Dean of the MUSC College of Medicine and Vice President of MUSC Medical Affairs. **Jerry Youkey, MD**, is Vice President of Medical and Academic Services for the Greenville Hospital System. This article appeared in The Post and Courier on Wednesday, March 14, 2007.

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium

Executive Director
David R. Garr, MD

South Carolina AHEConnects Editor
Ragan DuBose-Morris, MA

Baxley Receives 2006 Halford Award

The 2006 South Carolina Area Health Education (AHEC) James G. Halford, Jr., MD Award for Leadership in Humane Education was bestowed on Elizabeth "Libby" G. Baxley, MD, on November 11, 2006 at the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians' Annual Meeting in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

The Halford Award is presented to a Family Medicine residency training program faculty member in recognition of outstanding leadership in providing humane education. Award winners demonstrate a caring attitude and respect for patients, residents and students; value human dignity; and demonstrate a passion and joy in learning, working and playing with others.

Dr. Baxley is the Chair of the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine at the USC School of Medicine. She graduated from the USC School of Medicine in 1984, graduated from the Family Practice Residency Program in Anderson in 1987 and completed a Faculty Development Fellowship in 1988 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill, NC.

Dr. Baxley's colleagues had impressive words of praise when nominating her for this award:

"Dr. Baxley is the perfect nominee and recipient of the Halford Award since she learned her skills at the side of Doctor Jimmy Halford himself. I know that she looks to him as her role model and primary teacher in shaping her career and making her the physician and educator that she is. She has won multiple teaching awards and has been awarded full tenure with a faculty rank of Professor by the University of South Carolina to which she had to meet obviously rigorous educational criteria. She exemplifies the human ideals as described in the Halford Award of caring, dignity and respect. She truly has a passion and joy of learning, but also of teaching and is very respectful and mindful of the other needs and concerns of her learners."

"Dr. Baxley is passionate about patient care. She is a leader in quality initiatives and improvement in patient centered care practices. She models this



Dr. Libby Baxley is presented the 2006 Halford Award by Dr. David Garr, Executive Director of the South Carolina AHEC

level of care within her own continuity practice. She treats all patients with dignity and respect. Throughout Dr. Baxley's career, she has repeatedly demonstrated her commitment to the patients and to the learner. Her excitement about learning and caring for others is infectious."

"It was never a mystery where her passion lies. Her office was filled with photos of her family, friends, special patients and special places. Yet when you came to her she would have you feel that your issue was the most important. She was always "fully present".

It's not uncommon to see her patients embrace her before leaving the office or hearing a familiar phrase at the end of her visits, "I love you Dr. Baxley". Dr. Baxley is an accomplished physician, author and ambassador for family physicians."

Congratulations to Dr. Libby Baxley, 2006 South Carolina AHEC James G. Halford, Jr., MD Award winner!

The I³ Collaborative: Improving Quality of Care in Family Medicine Residencies

Michele Stanek, MHS; Libby Baxley, MD; and Holbrook Raynal, MD, DHA

The **I³ Collaborative: Improving Quality of Care in Family Medicine Residencies** is a regional Quality Improvement collaborative focused on Family Medicine residencies in North and South Carolina. Administered by the University of South Carolina School of Medicine Department of Family and Preventive Medicine and the University of North Carolina School of Medicine Department of Family Medicine, the overall goal of this initiative is to improve the health of citizens in North and South Carolina – directly, by improving the quality of care provided to the population of patients served by the states’ teaching programs – and indirectly, by influencing the design and outcomes of care in community practices served by graduates of these programs. The collaborative takes its name, **I³**, from the impact of innovation and improvement at three levels: in the patient care practices of the learners in training, on their future practices after graduation, and in the communities in which they live and practice.

With funding from the Fullerton Foundation, **I³** provides support and training for ten Family Medicine programs, including Palmetto Family Medicine (USCSOM), Trident Family Medicine (MUSC), AnMed Family Medicine, and Spartanburg Family Medicine in South Carolina. Participating teams selected from one of two chronic disease states, diabetes and congestive heart failure, for their improvement focus and emphasis is placed on implementing Wagner’s Chronic Care Model as a means to improve patient outcomes, as well as patient, learner and staff satisfaction.

Quality Improvement collaboratives are the health care industry’s most effective approach to improving quality on a large scale. However,

the size, bureaucracy, and competing demands of academic settings often make these sites “orders of magnitude” more difficult locations in which to improve quality. Recognizing this, as well as the drivers present in academic settings – such as comfort with data, critical thinking and focus on evidence-based medicine – the first ever academic-only collaborative was sponsored by the American

Association of Medical Colleges and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in 2005-2006. Experience in this collaborative led to the development of the **I³ Collaborative**, in which participating programs are able to address barriers and leverage opportunities related to quality improvement work in academic family medicine practices.

Many Quality Improvement collaboratives are costly, focused on time-limited projects and bring teams together from around the country. Rarely, if ever, do they take advantage of geographically related environments where local leaders share information and experiences. The **I³ Collaborative** has made a concerted effort to take advantage of its regional focus, emphasizing the development and networking of local opinion leaders and teaching faculty within the Carolinas. Medical and Public Health leaders in both states have demonstrated significant interest through their provision of expertise and in-kind support, including Carolina Centers for Medical Excellence, South Carolina AHEC, North Carolina AHEC and North Carolina Division of Public Health.

Another key component of this academic collaborative is its focus on training and curriculum development. Teams are individually and collaboratively developing and testing methods to provide residents and medical students with the knowledge and skills necessary for continually assessing and improving care for patients. Residents are active participants in these quality improvement teams and assist in developing and testing practice

improvement strategies around their team's chronic disease focus.

The **I³ Collaborative** is now completing the second of its four-phase design. In Phase 1, 10 sites were selected from among 16 interested programs, 12 of whom completed the two-stage application process. Applicants were required to demonstrate support on the part of their hospital and academic leadership and submit initial data about their clinical operations, quality systems, and environmental scans. Residencies chosen to participate provided additional baseline information to the **I³ Collaborative** Design Team in preparation for the first face-to-face meeting, CAPSTONE I, which took place in May, 2006 in Columbia, South Carolina. This meeting included **I³ Collaborative** staff, institutional leaders and clinical champions from the ten participating programs, and visiting professor, Dr. David Stevens, who is Senior Vice President of the Institute for Improving Clinical Care at the Association of American Medical Colleges and leader of the national Academic Chronic Care Collaborative.

Baseline data demonstrate that participating programs represent a total of over 350,000 patient visits per year (approximately 140,000 patients) cared for by 249 Family Medicine residents and 92 faculty members. A large proportion of the patients are underserved (average: 13% uninsured, 24% Medicaid, and 26% Medicare), and minority representation is high. As such, the **I³ Collaborative** has the potential to impact an extraordinary number of patients and communities in the Carolinas.

Over the summer of 2006, **I³ Collaborative** Design Team members visited each of the participating residencies, meeting with their self-selected, multidisciplinary Quality Improvement teams to review clinical and information systems and baseline data. LEARNING SESSION I, the first face-to-face meeting of clinical teams from all residencies, was held in Fall 2006, with an emphasis on key content areas (Quality Improvement models including the AQC 9-Step Quality Improvement Cycle "Plan-Do-Study-Act" (PDSA), use of registries,

patient Self Management, and others), sharing of data, and academic components.

The first ACTIVE PERIOD of the **I³ Collaborative** is currently underway. Data is being collected on a monthly basis, posted electronically for all participating residencies to have access to and disease specific groups meet monthly by phone to report on results from their site-specific PDSA cycles. Collected data includes both process and outcome measures.

For example, diabetes measures include, among others, the percentage of patients with a hemoglobin A1c less than 7.0% (level measured through a blood test) and percentage with a documented self management goal (plan to control their diabetes). Selected congestive heart failure measures include percentage of patients with an objective measure

of LVF (left ventricle failure), percentage with an ejection fraction less than or equal to 40% (amount of blood that is moved by the left ventricle), and rehospitalization rates. Early data has already demonstrated clinical improvement within participating teams, as well as across the Collaborative as a whole.

Spin-off activities from the **I³ Collaborative** have occurred, including a Continuing Education (CE) meeting that was held in March 2007 for nurses across all 10 participating residencies sites to learn the most effective ways to conduct self management goal setting with patients. Additional face-to-face meetings will take place in the Fall of 2007 and 2008. Project activities, including review of outcomes, publication and dissemination of results, will be completed in 2009.

For additional information about the **I³ Collaborative**, contact Dr. Libby Baxley at the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine in the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. She can be reached at 803-434-6116.

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2007 Annual Meeting Celebrated Diversity

The South Carolina AHEC Annual Meeting provides an opportunity for the regional centers and Program Office to come together and celebrate the year's achievements while working towards next year's goals. This year's meeting was held March 19-20, in Greenville.

The meeting's theme focused on celebrating the diversity found within the system and across our state. Program highlights included: a panel discussing diversity in the workplace, a presentation on bridging the generation divide, a panel discussing cultural competency and numerous networking opportunities.

The Annual Meeting also provided an opportunity for recognition of outstanding staff, collaborators and educators. The following awards were presented for 2007:

Ambassador Award: Gayna Faulconer, South Carolina AHEC, Program Office
Gayna Faulconer, Students Services Coordinator for South Carolina AHEC, has been named the South Carolina AHEC Ambassador of the Year. The purpose of the South Carolina AHEC Ambassador Award is to recognize a member of the South Carolina AHEC system who has made a major contribution to the enhancement of South Carolina AHEC by exhibiting excellence. Gayna Faulconer has contributed to the enhancement of the South Carolina AHEC by helping students find clinical rotations across the state.

Gayna embodies the A-H-E-C spirit in the following ways:

Gayna maintains a positive ATTITUDE and is

always friendly, efficient, prompt, and poised; Gayna's role has always been one of support and HELPFULNESS to other AHEC employees, councils, and students; She always provides the factual information necessary for others to complete their jobs and then EMPOWERS them to do so according to their regional needs and policies; and Gayna's



ability to accomplish the unlimited number of tasks while serving the same organization for 30 years speaks volumes for her degree of CREATIVITY.

Clinical Training Site of the Year: Seneca Medical Associates



Seneca Medical Associates has been selected as the South Carolina AHEC Clinical Teaching Site of the Year for 2007. The site is selected based on the following criteria: being an active interdisciplinary clinical teaching site, positive feedback on evaluations completed by students, and letters of nomination from coordinators and students.

The unique 1+2 rural training track that Seneca Medical Associates runs with Oconee Memorial Hospital and AnMed Health provides a unique training program for residents interested in rural practice. The program is described as a "procedure-focused residency training" where family physicians provide training in C-sections, colonoscopies, vasectomies and other procedures. This intensive, hands-on training has won praise from students who seek to follow in the footsteps of the six physicians in this dedicated practice.

Educator of the Year: Michael Frisina, MA
The South Carolina AHEC Continuing Education Council presents the Educator of the Year award to an exceptional educator that serves South Carolina's health care professionals. This year's recipient is Michael Frisina, MA. The Educator of the Year is selected based on their ability to present content in a practical, useful format to meet the needs and expectations of program participants, while also communicating material dynamically. Educators also have to successfully adapt presentations to address multiple learning styles.

Michael Frisina is currently the Administrative Director for Organizational Development and Leadership at Tuomey Healthcare System in



Sumter. Mr. Frisina's presentations encourage robust interaction among the participants and he has the enormous capacity of inspiring an audience to strive for excellence in all that they do. One participant commented, "In an era when healthcare is so pushed to 'go lean,' I can only say that we all need a mega dose of Michael Frisina! He makes for a healthy diet of heart, soul and mind."

Preceptor of the Year: Vickie Glover, PA-C
Vickie Glover, PA-C, has been selected as the South Carolina AHEC Preceptor of the Year for 2007. The purpose of this award is to bring recognition to an outstanding community-based preceptor serving South Carolina health professions students. Each year practitioners volunteer to provide hours of clinical education to students from various health professions. It is their dedication to the education of the next generation of health professionals that is honored with this award.

This year the award committee was impressed by the individual attention Ms. Glover provides to her patients and students. In her roll as a physician assistant, she gives students the opportunity to learn using a hands-on approach in which they able to interview and examine patients, create a treatment plan and then present their findings. As one of her students said, "She never failed to ask, 'What would you do for this patient?' and certainly made me feel like I was part of the treatment plan." Patients also benefited from her approach. Another student said, "Her patients truly respect her, understand that she is on their side and always has their best interests in mind."



Years of Service Awards (Pictured with Dr. David Garr):



5 Years

Shawn Anderson , Tonya Faircloth,
Selena Henderson & Tavy Smalls



6 Years

Charles Brown



15 Years

Denise White



25 Years

Ann Griffith



30 Years

Gayna Faulconer

Not Pictured - 10 Years
Pam Harper

Graduate Awarded a 2006 Pfizer Teacher Development Award

Dr. Matthew Roehrs was one of 15 national winners of the 2006 Pfizer Teacher Development Award. He was recognized with a \$1500 scholarship to attend an enrichment activity of his choice.

"Generous support from the Pfizer Medical Humanities Initiative allows the American Academy of Family Practitioners Foundation (AAPF) to award Dr. Roehrs and the AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency Program for their dedication to the future of family medicine," explains Dr. Mary Jo Welker, Chair of the AAFP Pfizer Teacher Development Awards Committee. This award recognizes outstanding community-based new physicians within the first seven years of practice who combine clinical practice with part-time teaching of family medicine.

The Anderson Family Medicine program also received \$500 to honor Dr. Roehrs with an AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency chair and a luncheon at a noon conference that was held in

February 2007. At that conference, Dr. Roehrs spoke to the residents about medical practice in a rural setting. He practices at Williamston Family Medicine Center and serves as a volunteer preceptor for residents doing inpatient obstetric rotations. He is the only obstetrician in the Williamston area which is a small town of 3800 located southwest of Greenville, SC. The medical residents were enthusiastic about his teaching as he was very knowledgeable and practical in his approach to patient care.

Dr. Roehrs is a graduate of Clemson University, the University of South Carolina School of Medicine and a 2003 graduate of the Family Medicine Residency Program in Anderson where he served as chief resident. He is active in his local church and has served as a medical missionary to Tanzania, Africa. He is married and the father of two lovely children.

"We are proud to have Matt as a graduate of our program and especially as a volunteer community faculty," said AnMed Health DME/Residency Director Dr. Stoney Abercrombie. "This award recognizes a truly outstanding young physician."

Changing the Shape of South Carolina

Emily Warren, LMSW, Lowcountry AHEC Health Professions Student Coordinator

On March 30, the South Carolina Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity along with many other partners sponsored the first annual Obesity Prevention Conference in Columbia, SC.

Dr. Margo Wootan, Nutrition Director for Science in the Public Interest, and Steven Blair, Professor at the USC Arnold School of Public Health, were the keynote speakers. They, along with a variety of state experts, presented an interactive and engaging look at how schools, communities, and workplaces are overcoming barriers to physical activity and nutrition. Emily Warren, Lowcountry AHEC Health Professions Student Coordinator, and Marilyn Peters, Clemson Extension Food & Safety Nutrition Agent, made a presentation on C.O.A.C.H. (Coalition Organized to Address Children's Health) entitled, "Community Approaches to Prevent Obesity Through Developing Community Coalitions".

C.O.A.C.H. was formed through the efforts of multiple community collaborators in October of 2003. C.O.A.C.H.'s vision and mission are the

establishment of community environments that promote and support healthy lifestyles through the improvement of the health of children and their families by preventing weight problems and related chronic diseases.

Ms. Warren discussed the collaboration between students who participate in both C.O.A.C.H. and SCRIPT (South Carolina Rural Interdisciplinary Program of Training). Since 2004, the SCRIPT students have actively participated with the C.O.A.C.H. program as part of their community-based health promotion activities. The students primarily worked on improving the nutrition environment and improving the physical environment. Students explored the *Rails to Trails* Program and *Share the Road* Signs to promote bike safety. The students also created *Walterboro Walks*, a brochure detailing the available walking/ biking trails in Walterboro. In 2006, the students focused on improving the nutrition environment by reaching out to the community via education and screening at the Walterboro Farmers Market. For more information, visit www.lcahec.net.



State Reimbursement Meeting Held for Family Medicine Residency Programs

The South Carolina AHEC Family Medicine program coordinators and finance staff from the eight sites gathered on February 9 in Columbia, SC. The purpose of the meeting was for personnel involved in the day-to-day operations of the Residency programs to obtain a better understanding of the state reimbursement process.

Ms. Denise White from the Program Office presented an extensive review of the Family Medicine budget and reviewed the state policies and procedures pertaining to purchases, travel, lodging, meals, special rules, etc.

Everyone felt that the meeting was beneficial to them and participants left with a greater understanding of the reimbursement process.



Pictured from left to right are: June LeCroy from Seneca, Christy Fairchild from Florence, Marci Way from Greenville, Denise Corriher from Florence, Julie Cannon from Spartanburg, Darlene Norton from Anderson, Kitty Shelton from Greenville, Thomasina Michael from Columbia, Denise Nicholson from Spartanburg and Lisa Bledsoe from Greenwood.

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES OF THE HEALTH CAREERS PROGRAM

*The South Carolina AHEC Student Development & Diversity Program (SDDP) has undergone a name change. The SDDP has become the South Carolina AHEC **Health Careers Program** (HCP) and we need your support!*

*In order to assure the continuation of funding for this program, South Carolina AHEC needs your assistance in identifying program outcomes. Please take a few minutes to complete the online **Information Update Form** to let us know your progress in achieving your professional goals. It will only take a few minutes of your time, but will assist us in continuing health career exploration opportunities for high school and undergraduate students across South Carolina.*

*In return for your response to this request, South Carolina AHEC will forward a small token of appreciation to the mailing address you provide. In addition, four regional AHEC drawings will be held from the responses and the winners will receive **Barnes & Noble** gift cards valued at **\$50**.*

*If you have an interest in working with the South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program by serving as a **speaker, mentor or volunteer**, please contact Angelica Christie at christae@muscd.edu or 843-792-4432. As you are aware, the assistance received from graduates and professionals is valuable to the overall experience of the program participants.*

*On behalf of the South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program team and participants, **thank you** for your immediate attention to this effort.*

Update your information online at: www.scahec.net/hcpupdate.html.

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CAREER PROFILE

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

Pharmacy technicians, under the direct supervision of licensed pharmacists, fill prescriptions and maintain the pharmacy's stock levels. Their duties may include helping to package and label medical preparations and sterile intravenous solutions, delivering prepared medications, ordering equipment and stock and keeping the pharmacy equipment sterile and orderly.

Places of Employment

- Community pharmacies (retail)
- Home health care facilities
- Hospitals
- Industry
- Nursing homes

Educational Preparation

A high school diploma or equivalent is required to become a pharmacy technician and high school courses in mathematics, biology, chemistry and



typing are recommended. Pharmacy technicians are trained in applied science degree programs at community colleges. Training takes one to two years, depending on the program.

Educational Programs

- Greenville Technical College, Greenville
- Midlands Technical College, Columbia
- Trident Technical College, Charleston

Professional Organizations

- American Association of Pharmacy Technicians, www.pharmacytechnician.com
- American Society of Health Systems Pharmacists, www.ashp.org
- National Pharmacy Technician Association, www.pharmacytechnician.org
- South Carolina Pharmacy Association, www.scrx.org

Pharmacy Tech Dispenses Personal Touch on Path to Nursing Career

Gaining familiarity with regular customers is a personal goal of Sharolyn Clark, CPhT. Sharolyn, or Nikki as she is known by family and friends, is a Pharmacy Technician at Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center in Columbia, SC. Her daily responsibilities include accepting and processing "scripts" (prescriptions), connecting patients with the pharmacist for prescription counseling, and assisting patients in receiving reduced-cost or no-cost medications. Nikki assists an average of 20 – 25 clients per day. Because a large percentage of her clients are elderly and have limited personal interaction, Nikki strives to acknowledge them each by name.

Nikki entered the Mid-Carolina Health Careers Program with a goal of becoming a physician. During her two years as a high school member of the Mid-Carolina Health Careers Program, she explored a variety of health careers, but remained intent on pursuing a career in medicine. In addition to attending the Health Career monthly meetings, Nikki participated in college visitations, interactive health career modules, shadowing opportunities, professional networking, and community service projects sponsored by Mid-Carolina AHEC. Her summers were spent participating in the South Carolina AHEC Summer Institutes, and summer internship opportunities. Prior to high school graduation at the age of 16, her career goal had been transformed, and she decided to enter the pre-nursing track.

Nikki accepted a full scholarship to Florida A&M University in Jacksonville, Fla. She later returned to South Carolina to continue her education closer to home and enrolled in the pre-nursing program at Midlands Technical College. During that time, Mid-Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program offered an on-line pharmacy tech training program in the summer of 2006. Nikki successfully completed the program and sat for national

NEUROBLAST

Answer the following statements about the Pharmacy Technician career using the scrambled letters. The *Final Question* can be answered by unscrambling the circled letters. Answers can be found on the Health Careers Program page at www.scahec.net.

1. Pharmacy Technicians assist in dispersing: D N E C M E I I

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2. Pharmacy Technicians are employed in a variety of practice settings including: S H P S I T O L A

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3. Pharmacy Technicians work under the supervision of which healthcare professional? H S R A C M T P A I

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4. Pharmacy Technician training programs award which level of degree in South Carolina? R C E T C F I I E T A

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5. Pharmacy Technicians work with doctors, insurance agencies and who else? S P T E I T N A

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6. Which South Carolina AHEC site offers a pharmacy technician training program? R M O I C A D A N I L

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7. The Pharmacy Technician profession is considered what level position? N T E Y R

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FINAL ANSWER:

The Pharmacy Technician Certification Board offers which level of certification?

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Pharmacy Technician Certification Board exam (PTCB). She received her national certification in 2006, and gained employment with CVS Pharmacy while continuing her education. She then became employed by the Eau Claire Cooperative in January 2007.

Nikki enjoys the relaxed work environment of her current position and doing her part in making the medical care process easier for her elderly clients. She anticipates completing the 1,000 hours of on-site training required to gain state certification by the end of May. Staying on track to become a Registered Nurse is important to Nikki. She has earned her pre-nursing certificate and has been accepted to enter the Midlands Tech Nursing program in the Fall of 2007. In the interim, she will continue to provide service as a pharmacy tech,

gaining insight into the field of medicine from an allied health perspective.

When asked what advice she can provide for students who may have an interest in the field, she states, "A big part of the job is communication between the doctor, the patient and the insurance company. The pharmacy technician becomes a bridge and should always be open and accessible to the patient and their doctor. They should have an understanding ear."

High school and college students in the Mid-Carolina AHEC region who are interested in additional information about the Health Careers Pharmacy Technician Training Program should contact Angel Clark at angelclark@infoave.net.

Promoting Diversity in Health Care: Partnerships for Success

The state of South Carolina has far fewer African American and Hispanic health care professionals than their proportional representation in the population. The four regional South Carolina Coalitions for Health Careers are working to strengthen South Carolina's health care workforce and close the health disparities gap by increasing the number of underrepresented and minority health care professionals.

The 2007 South Carolina AHEC Building Diversity Summit provided an opportunity to highlight the accomplishments achieved by the Coalitions. The Summit was held at the SC Hospital Association Yates Conference Center in Columbia, SC on February 27. The Summit provided networking opportunities for those who support increased representation of minority students in the health-related professions and development of resources to promote the entry of minority students into South Carolina's health professions pipeline.

A total of 103 student development professionals and high school students from across the state came together to share information about experiences, projects and resources. In addition to highlighting the successes of the regional Coalitions for Health Careers, insight was provided into the development of the statewide Building

Diversity projects which include a Teach the Teacher Academy curriculum, a Parental Involvement Workshop, and a Mentorship Program.

Nationally acclaimed author and motivational speaker, Mychael Wynn, shared his tips on how to effectively motivate middle and high school students with an emphasis on the need for early intervention and motivation at the elementary school level. Also, information was provided about the South Carolina Department of Education's innovative "Pathway to Careers" program.

The Summit included a special session for high school students interested in exploring careers in health care. Each of the four coalitions provided support so these students could attend the Summit. These 26 students shared their personal experiences with the health career exploration process, and their stories motivated the professionals in the audience to sustain their efforts to provide information and encouragement to students about health care-related educational and employment opportunities.

Additional information and a searchable database of the Coalition member and partner institutions can be found on the Health Career Education Resources in South Carolina Website at <http://ahec.library.musc.edu/H CER>.

Upstate Coalition for Health Careers Produces Newspaper Supplement

The Upstate Coalition for Health Careers, in collaboration with the Greenville News' Newspapers in Education (NIE) Program, produced a Health Science Supplement that was delivered to the 38 middle schools located in Oconee, Spartanburg and Anderson counties and to each subscriber of the Greenville News during the last week of March. The Supplement contained statistics about many of the health sciences occupations and their respective educational opportunities and training requirements. Also included were the top 25 career choices and salaries, and a host of other useful health careers information.

Pictures of local, underrepresented, practicing health care professionals were featured in

the supplement as well as regional career resource information. School career specialists and counselors were notified by phone of the anticipated arrival of this special supplement by members of the Upstate Coalition and a letter from co-chair Jacqueline Williams.

Schools were encouraged to share the insert with students and parents during guidance sessions, conferences, and community forums. Classroom teachers were encouraged to incorporate the supplement materials into their curriculums. The supplement was also provided as a colorful poster for bulletin board and classroom display. The goal of the Coalition's newspaper project was to promote health career awareness among students in grades 6th – 8th in support of the Pathways to Careers Health Career Cluster.

For more information about the Upstate Coalition, please visit www.upstaterc.org.

Lowcountry Coalition for Health Careers Launches Lunch Buddy Program

Toni Rehkop, Co-Chair, Lowcountry Coalition for Health Careers

The Lowcountry Coalition for Health Careers, in partnership with the Beaufort Memorial Hospital, initiated a pilot Lunch Buddy Program at Mossy Oaks Elementary School in Beaufort, SC on March 16, 2007. Eleven 5th grade students who are considered “at risk” were selected to participate in the program. An “at risk” student is defined as one who is performing poorly in the areas of reading and math, or consistently does not complete or submit homework assignments. The 5th grade teachers of Mossy Oak Elementary School were instrumental in identifying the student participants. In order to not interfere with instructional class time, the 10-week Lunch Buddy Program takes place weekly during the students’ regularly scheduled 40-minute lunch period. Beaufort Memorial sponsors a healthy lunch provided during the meeting time for the participants and guests.

The Lunch Buddy Program provides small group discussions between students and practicing health care workers. Each meeting includes a minimum of 2 health care professionals and the school’s guidance counselor. The Coalition’s goal in implementing the Lunch Buddy Program is to support the preparation of middle school students for entry into the health professions pipeline of South Carolina by establishing role model relationships, promoting academic and professional goal setting, and increasing health career awareness.

At the first meeting, the students were asked what their first thoughts were when they were told they would be attending this meeting. The responses were eye opening and included, “I wondered what I did wrong”, “why did I get picked, I’m not smart”, and “I must of gotten in trouble again”. As a group, they read and discussed the book “The Eagles Who Thought They Were Chickens”, by Mychael Wynn. The students’ professional goals were also discussed and the responses included everything from lawyer to paintball shooter. The students who shared unrealistic careers choices were asked to think of something else they would like to do if their first choice could not support them or did not require further schooling. The students were provided with a journal and were encouraged to make daily entries about something that was accomplished or learned that day. Personal choices were explored, and the students were challenged to complete and submit their homework each day.

At the second meeting, students shared an entry from their journals and reported if they had submitted their homework during the past week. The school’s guidance counselor has participated in each meeting and offered a few words in support of the day’s topic. Future meetings will include playing math and science games from Making the Link by Lisa King, Ed.S., LPC and continued interaction with the guest role models.

For more information on the Lowcountry Coalition for Health Careers, please visit: www.lowcountryrc.org.

*The regional “Coalition for Health Careers”
activities described in this section are
made possible by a grant from
The Duke Endowment.*

Pee Dee Coalition for Health Careers Co-Sponsors Annual Expo

Shalawn Dolly, RN, BSN, Director, MINE Project & Pee Dee Coalition for Health Careers Member

On Sunday, February 25, 2007, Pee Dee Coalition for Health Careers co-sponsored the annual McLeod Health HealthCare Careers Expo. Members of the Coalition also manned an interactive health careers booth at the McLeod Medical Plaza in Florence, South Carolina. The three hour event was designed to accommodate middle school and high school students and parents interested in learning about health care careers. In addition, there were numerous opportunities to network with countless experts from a variety of health related fields.

Students sponsored by Coalition member organizations, Minorities in Nursing Education (MINE) Project of Horry-Georgetown Technical College and health career students from the Darlington County Institute of Technology attended the Expo to assist in manning the Coalition's display area. The Expo also provided an excellent opportunity for the students, who are currently interested in health related professions, to get a glimpse of future professional possibilities if they remain focused and continue to apply themselves.

Information to promote diversity in healthcare along with information about programs offered by

coalition member organizations was dispersed. A special feature of the display area was an on-going demonstration of "Sims Man", an interactive manikin manufactured to have human, life-like qualities. As he "moaned" and performed bodily functions, passer bys were drawn to the display area. "Sims Man" was a definite crowd pleaser and main attraction of the event. In the larger room, off from the lobby, participants were provided information on a variety of health care professions including

Nursing, Radiology Services, Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine, Respiratory Therapy, Medical Laboratory and Surgical Services. Information regarding the McLeod Health scholarship programs was readily available to anyone who was interested.



Pee Dee Coalition Members Provide Information at Expo

The MINE Project members each completed a five question survey on what was learned during

their participation in the Expo. The responses were overwhelmingly similar. Every member thoroughly enjoyed the Career Expo and gained a greater understanding of not only the field of nursing, but other health careers that were on display at the exhibition. The students, MINE staff and Coalition members were appreciative of the invitation and look forward to next year's Expo.

Upstate AHEC Health Careers Update

In early 2006, it was decided that the Student Development and Diversity Program needed updating to address the needs of a new generation of students. After research, strategic planning, and discussion, a new program was developed utilizing the strengths of the existing program and adding new elements to allow for more consistency throughout the state. Each South Carolina AHEC region was tasked with implementing the new "Health Careers Program".

In the Fall of 2006, Upstate AHEC chose to implement this new program at Carolina High School and Academy because it contains an Academy of Pre-Engineering and Health Professions. Twenty ninth-grade students were chosen to participate. These students took part in

courses that can lead to certification in the health care field. They also went on health related college tours and heard from speakers about various health careers. The students then evaluated the program and let their regional AHEC Coordinator know what worked and what needed to be tweaked.

The students who successfully completed the ninth grade curriculum have been given an opportunity to participate in the Upstate AHEC Summer Enrichment Program where they can earn high school and/or college credit in addition to receiving stipends for their work. In the Fall of 2007, interested students from the pilot group will move to a new curriculum designed for sophomores and a new ninth grade class will begin their health career exploration. For more information about the Upstate AHEC Health Careers Program, visit www.upstateahec.org.

Students Attend Annual Symposium on Careers in Biomedical Sciences

Angel Clark, Health Careers Program Coordinator, Mid-Carolina AHEC

This year 14 students from the South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program were selected to attend the 21st Annual Symposium on Career Opportunities in Biomedical Sciences hosted by Florida A&M University. The Symposium on Career Opportunities in Biomedical Sciences is one of the most prestigious, scientific and educational symposia for minority students. Over 650 high school and undergraduate students with similar interests were selected nationally to attend this year's event sponsored by the Minority Health Professions Foundation (MHPF). The theme for this year's Symposium was "Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities through Enhanced Training Opportunities."



MPH, Health Scientist from the Tobacco Control Branch at the National Cancer Institute; Maria Elena Zavala, PhD, a Professor of Biology at the University of California, Northridge; and

Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, PhD, President of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Students also had the opportunity to visit over 30 exhibits at the Health Profession & Career

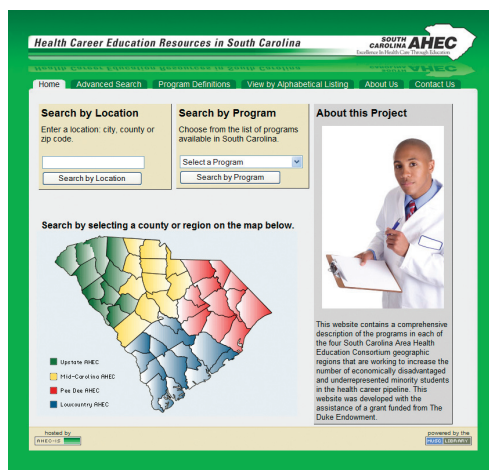
Development Fair to obtain information on internships, scholarship applications, college admissions and career development. Other activities included a poolside dinner and social, Showtime at the Apollo, and a farewell dance.

The Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS) is comprised of 12 historically black medical, dental, pharmacy and veterinary colleges in the country. Each year, through the assistance of government agencies and private institutions, AMHPS sponsors students who have demonstrated an interest in furthering their education in biomedical sciences or other health profession careers. South Carolina AHEC and the Education Club of Unionville AME Church assisted in sponsoring students from South Carolina to attend this year's Symposium.

As part of the Symposium program, students had the opportunity to hear from leading scientists, physicians, researchers, government representatives and distinguished professors from across the country. Speakers included Mr. Willie Jolley, CPA, CPAE, America's Leading Motivational Speaker; Pebbles Fagan, PhD,

Students representing South Carolina AHEC included: Krystal Cosby, Roosevelt Dunlap, Nadira Gary, Lauren LittleJohn, Briana McCoy, Janetta Pinkney, Rico Steadman, Janesse Terry, Jaml Thomas, Bakaray Wells, Nyshelle Whiting, Ashley Williams, Lashia Wilson, and Tybierrus Woods. The students were escorted by Health Careers Program Coordinator, Angel Clark of Mid-Carolina AHEC and Tavy Smalls of Low Country AHEC.

For more information on the Health Careers Program, visit www.scahec.net.



The Health Career Education Resources in South Carolina website is an electronic database that contains information about agencies and organizations that support the preparation of minorities and under-served residents of South Carolina who are interested in exploring or pursuing professions of health care. The website is made possible through the support of The Duke Endowment. Access the HCEC website at <http://ahc.library.musc.edu/hcer>.

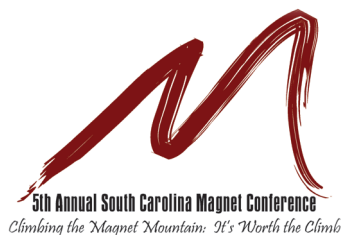
Magnet Conference Continues Journey Towards Excellence

The South Carolina AHEC partnered with the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) as a host for the 5th Annual South Carolina Magnet Conference. The ANCC joined the ongoing supportive partners from hospitals across South Carolina, the South Carolina Hospital Association, the South Carolina Organization of Nurse Leaders, and the USC Center for Nursing Leadership in providing an exciting experience for those on the journey to Magnet designation.

This year's program was held April 26-27 in Columbia and addressed the journey to Magnet Designation from its beginning to its end. The two-day program explored the 14 Forces, highlighting evidence-based practice, career advancement, academic/health care organization partnership, and shared decision making. Practical examples of evidence for the 14 Forces were drawn from South Carolina's experiences.

The term "Magnet" was coined in 1982 to describe organizations that attracted and retained well-qualified nurses who provided quality patient care and experienced a high degree of professional and personal satisfaction through their practice. Today,

the Magnet Nursing Services Recognition Program for Excellence in Nursing Services is the highest level of recognition that the ANCC, an arm of the American Nurses Association, can award to organized nursing services in health care organizations.



Magnet hospitals create a working environment that supports the staff nurse and superior nursing practice to achieve optimal patient

outcomes. Magnet also creates a positive "halo" effect beyond nursing services that is transferred to all health care team members reinforcing collaborative working relationships with one goal—optimal patient care. Health care organizations that implement Magnet practices often have higher levels of patient satisfaction, better patient outcomes, higher levels of nurse satisfaction, and significantly higher nurse-appraised quality of care.



For more information about the Magnet journey, visit www.nursecredentialing.org/magnet.

Workshop Focused on Skills

The 4th Annual Nurse Aide Training Coordinators and Instructors Workshop was held on April 18 in Columbia, South Carolina.

This workshop brought together over 140 nurse aide instructors, who are responsible for the training of nurse aides, for the purpose of learning, sharing ideas, networking and assuring consistency of excellence in nurse aide training programs.



Participants Help Demonstrate Proper Method for Taking Blood Pressure

The Conference Committee reviewed the past years' reports on testing pass rates, and the following

skills had the lowest overall scores: Blood Pressure, Pulse, Respirations, Weight, Ambulation, Mouth Care, Perineal Care and Catheter Care. The 4th Annual Workshop focused on improving the test scores by providing hands-on, live demonstrations of the proper training techniques.

Representatives from the Department of Health and Human Services, NACES Plus Foundation, Inc. (testing organization) and Promissor Inc. (testing organization) were also on hand to answer specific training and evaluation questions.

Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive and plans are already underway for next year's Workshop.



Disaster Preparedness Training Put into Action on Kiawah Island

Security is heightened in preparation for the 68th Senior PGA Championship – you hear an explosion – is it terrorism or a tragic accident? How do you react?

If you recently completed training in disaster preparedness and emergency response like the security and first responder personnel on Kiawah Island, then you survey the scene, stabilize and evacuate the injured, and shaken but focused, you continue to prepare for the thousands of visitors who will be arriving within days. That was exactly the scene on the morning of May 18 when an explosion in the kitchen area of the new Kiawah Ocean Course Clubhouse injured four construction workers.



Local Officials Take Part in Table Top Exercise on May 3, 2007

Between April 30 and May 3, disaster preparedness experts sponsored by the South Carolina AHEC had conducted two training exercises with eight personnel from the Kiawah Island Safety and Security department, St. John's Fire and Rescue, Roper Life Link, Charleston County Sheriffs Office and security personnel from Kiawah Island Homeowners Association. The training exercises dealt with preparing for mass casualty incidents, and coincidentally used the scenario of a propane gas explosion at a concession booth as an example of an incident that could occur during the tournament.

Michael Shirey, a trainer for the South Carolina AHEC Disaster Preparedness and Response Training Network (DPRT) and Charleston County EMS manager, conducted the training sessions. "The creepy part is we just did the Mass Casualty Incident training at Kiawah", explained Shirey. "Kiawah Island Security reported being thrilled to have had the training they needed to respond to the incident".

"The recent training certainly aided our response as we assisted those in need," said Yvonne Johnstone, Director of Security at Kiawah Island Golf Resort. "It is important that our staff is fully prepared to deal with any incident."

The injured workers were quickly evaluated by those who used the skills they have recently acquired during the training program and they were transported to MUSC for care. Of the eight personnel who participated in the training, six were called to respond to the incident.

"The South Carolina AHEC and its Lowcountry Center DPRT coordinator, Ms. Barbara Burden, were pleased to help provide training to the Kiawah personnel prior to this unfortunate event", explains Dr. David Garr, South Carolina AHEC Executive Director. "It appears the staff responded in a most effective and efficient manner and it is my understanding that the training they received was very helpful in this emergency situation".

The DPRT Network is a collaboration of many partners in South Carolina that addresses the training needs of health care and first responder professionals so they can recognize and respond to bioterrorism and public health emergency events. The DPRT Network was refunded in 2005 through a three-year grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to provide exactly the type of training utilized on Kiawah Island.

For information about Disaster Preparedness & Response Training programs, visit www.scahec.net/prepares.

Volunteer Training for the Strategic National Stockpile a Success

South Carolina became better prepared to respond to an outbreak of Pandemic Influenza or any other biohazard on March 24, 2007. Over 120 health professionals gathered at Seawell's Conference Center in Columbia to receive training for distributing the antibiotics and antiviral medications in the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to citizens of South Carolina should the need arise.

The Strategic National Stockpile refers to the large quantities of medicine and medical supplies that have been amassed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). These supplies are stored in several secret locations throughout the country and can be deployed to protect the American public if there is a public health emergency (terrorist attack, flu outbreak, earthquake, etc.) severe enough to cause local supplies to run out.

Although public health officials in each state have plans to quickly receive and distribute SNS medicine and medical supplies, local health care providers must contribute the manpower to dispense and administer the medications to our citizens in a timely and effective manner. As pharmacists, both

Joanne Epley, the South Carolina DHEC Director of the SNS, and Deborah Stier Carson, PharmD, working with South Carolina AHEC's Disaster Preparedness & Response Training program, realized the importance of training a cohort of their peers to take part in such an endeavor before the containers with the SNS arrived in our state. They teamed up with Deborah Derrick, ESAR-VHP Volunteer Coordinator with South Carolina DHEC, Sandra Tucker, South Carolina DHEC

Region 3 Nursing Director, and Harvey Hoots, South Carolina DHEC Program Coordinator, to develop the day-long program.

Participating pharmacists, nurses, and pharmacy technicians learned the basics of Incident Command and the National Incident Management System from South Carolina DHEC's John Brown. They also learned the expected role of health care providers during the activation of the SNS, and the legal ramifications of volunteering as a health care professional during times of disaster. Matthew Penn, Staff Attorney for South Carolina DHEC, explained the challenge of working through the Worker Compensation and Liability issues that all states face in the event of a disaster. Jennifer Baker of the South Carolina Pharmacy Association outlined procedures for pharmacists to obtain rights to administer vaccines.

During the afternoon training sessions, participants used schematics of a public school to lay out the patient flow for a SNS Point of Dispensing Site taking into consideration security, isolation of sick patients and area for staff respite. During the SNS exercise, they learned how to "triage" patients depending on their medical and psychological needs. Participants practiced dispensing mass quantities of antibiotics and rehearsed the process of rapidly vaccinating large numbers of citizens in the event of a pandemic virus.

Participant and observer feedback was overwhelmingly positive. W. Chuck Menchion, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Program Services Consultant for the Strategic National Stockpile, offered high praise of the workshop. He applauded South Carolina for "taking a lead role in setting the stage for building the number of volunteers needed to facilitate a mass dispensing campaign".

To learn more about educational opportunities being offered by the Disaster Preparedness & Response Training Network, visit www.scahec.net/prepares.



Participants Plan Response for Strategic National Stockpile Exercise



Training Provides Experience in Emergency Medication Distribution

Lowcountry AHEC Welcomes New Personnel

Ms. Debbie Anderson is the new Continuing Education Coordinator for Lowcountry AHEC. She has worked in the field of health care and education for over nine years. During that time she has coordinated continuing medical education for residents and medical staff, coordinated seminars for hospital staff, and taught life skills and team building to college students. Her duties at Lowcountry AHEC include: conducting needs assessment as part of the LC AHEC continuing education team; assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating CE nursing and allied health programs; and identifying nursing continuing education event resources including instructors and venue sites.



From left to right: Lisa Schreiber, Tonya Brady, and Debbie Anderson

Ms. Lisa Schreiber is one of two health professions student coordinators at Lowcountry AHEC. In that role she coordinates the clinical rotations of multiple disciplines of health professions students. Ms. Schreiber oversees student clinical placements, housing placements, and preceptor assignments. In addition, she assists students with community-focused health promotion projects. She also works with the South Carolina Rural Interdisciplinary Program of Training (SCRIPT) at Lowcountry AHEC. Prior to working at Lowcountry AHEC, Ms. Schreiber coordinated university students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. In addition, Ms. Schreiber brings an artistic background and web design skills to Lowcountry AHEC.

Tonya Brady is an administrative assistant for Lowcountry AHEC. In that role, she is responsible for assisting the program coordinators. Tonya has an associate degree in office systems technology from Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College and has worked with the Colleton County EMS and most recently was a dialysis technician at Davita Healthcare.

Carter New Director of Family Medicine Residency Program

In February of this year, Charles Carter, Jr., MD became the new Director of the Family Medicine Residency Program at Palmetto Health.



Dr. Carter grew up in western North Carolina but received his undergraduate and medical education in South Carolina. He graduated from Wofford College and earned a doctor of medicine from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. He is a graduate of the Family Medicine Residency at Palmetto Health Richland, Columbia, where he served as chief resident his final year. After residency, Dr. Carter served as the John C. Rose Fellow in Medical Editing and Faculty Development at Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, D.C.

Before his appointment to the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, Dr. Carter was employed as a faculty member with the Atlanta Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program, in Morrow, Georgia, and as a Clinical Assistant Professor at Mercer University School of Medicine, in Macon, Georgia.

In addition to his duties as residency director, he serves as an assistant editor for the *American Family Physician*. His special interests include nutrition and exercise, obesity, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, evidence-based practice/information mastery, and medical writing and editing.

Dr. Carter is board certified in Family Medicine and a member of the SC Academy of Family Physicians, American Academy of Family Physicians, and Society of Teachers of Family Medicine. He lives with his wife, Becky, and his son, Quinn, in Columbia.



We have Moved: 

To Our New Location On April 2nd, 2007

<p><u>Old Location:</u> Lowcountry Area Health Education Center 1000 Pine Street PO Box 948 Varnville, SC 29944</p>	<p><u>New Location:</u> Lowcountry Area Health Education Center 302 Medical Park Drive, Suite 110 Walterboro, SC 29488</p>
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CALL FOR ARTICLES:

The editorial staff of "South Carolina AHEConnects" welcomes the submission of articles, success stories and upcoming events for the Fall Edition.

Please forward information, articles and photos to Ragan DuBose-Morris at duboser@musc.edu. The deadline for submissions is August 1, 2007.

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium

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